

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for managing ~~data in a~~ registers in a processor, comprising:

introducing a name level instruction for at least one of a named architected register

into an instruction set, the instruction set for use with the ~~in a~~ processor;

allowing a programmer to change the current name level of a the at least one named

architected register name via said name level instruction, the at least one

named architected register available to the programmer as an additional

named architected register as a result of a name level change; and

assigning a new physical memory location to the at least one named architected

register upon receipt of the name level instruction instituting a name level

change for the at least one named architected register.

~~creating a new register with an internal name and a new name level, and~~

~~providing a plurality of additional available computer registers.~~

2. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the physical memory

location comprises a physical register, the name level instruction is used for initiating hardware register renaming operations performed by hardware register renaming apparatus of the processor.

3. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 2, wherein the ~~name-level instruction used for~~ hardware register renaming apparatus maintains a pointer to a current physical register for ~~a corresponding~~ the at least one named architected register, where upon receipt of the name level instruction the hardware register renaming apparatus changes the pointer to another physical register for the at least one named architected register with the new name level, thereby assigning a new physical memory location to the at least one named architected register.

4. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the ~~name-level instruction processor~~ uses at least one register stack to assign a new physical memory location to the at least one named architected register upon receipt of the name level instruction.

5. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the ~~name-level instruction processor~~ uses a hardware-managed register cache to assign a new physical memory location to the at least one named architected register upon receipt of the name level instruction.

6. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the ~~name-level instruction processor~~ uses a hardware-managed special-purpose memory to assign a new physical memory location to the at least one named architected register upon receipt of the name level instruction.

7. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the ~~name-level instruction processor~~ uses a hardware-managed component of main memory storage of a system to assign a new physical memory location to the at least one named architected register upon receipt of the name level instruction .

8. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the ~~name-level instruction processor~~ uses a software-managed component of main memory storage of a system, where upon finding that a name resides in a special purpose area of main storage, an interrupt to the processor causes invocation of an interrupt handler that performs a task of bringing a value of the name level from the main storage to a physical register.

9. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the ~~name-level instruction processor~~ uses a hardware-managed hierarchy of structures such as cache and storage, successively larger in size and slower in access time to assign a new physical memory location to the at least one named architected register upon receipt of the name level instruction.

10. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein the name level instruction provides for the facilitation of architectural features which overload the architected register namespace reducing the overhead of register management.

11. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the name level instruction provides for additional ~~computer~~ architected registers without changing the instruction format of the computer.

12. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising: a computer ~~usable~~ readable memory medium ~~having computer-readable~~ tangibly embodying a program code embodied therein for managing data in a register, the computer readable program code adapted to perform operations when executed by a computer processor, the operations in said ~~computer program product~~ comprising:

~~computer readable program code for causing a computer to utilize~~ receiving a name level instruction;

~~computer readable program code for causing the computer to change~~ changing a the current name level of a named architected register ~~name via said name level~~ instruction in response to the received name level instruction; and

~~computer readable program code for causing the computer to create~~ adding a new architected register for use by a programmer, the new architected register corresponding to the named architected register with the new name level

instituted by the received name level instruction with an internal name and a new name level; and
assigning a new physical memory location to the at least one named architected register upon receipt of the name level instruction instituting a name level change for the named architected register.

13. (Currently amended) A computer program product as in claim 12, wherein the physical memory location comprises a physical register of the computer processor, the name level instruction initiating is used for hardware register renaming operations performed by hardware register renaming apparatus of the computer processor.

14. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 12, wherein the name level instruction provides for the facilitation of architectural features which overload the architected register namespace reducing the overhead of register management.

15. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 12, wherein the name level instruction provides for additional computer registers without changing the instruction format of the computer.

16. (Currently amended) A data processor comprising:
a memory storing a program comprising a plurality of instructions and at least one

name level instruction, the name level instruction changing a name level of a
named architected register;
at least one execution unit ~~operating in cooperation with instructions and comprising~~
~~circuitry to manage data in a register~~ adapted to execute the program
comprising a plurality of instructions and at least one name level instruction;
said data processor further comprising a plurality of registers, and
a register renaming mechanism coupled to a stack of register names and responsive
to a name level instruction for ~~creating a new register with an internal name~~
~~and a new name level by changing a current name level of a register~~ assigning
a new physical register to the named architected register upon execution of
the at least one name level instruction of the program.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) A data processor as in claim 16, wherein the memory includes a
backing store.

21. (Currently amended) A data processor as in claim 16, wherein the ~~name level instruction~~ register renaming mechanism used for hardware register renaming maintains a pointer to a current physical register for a corresponding architected register.

22. (Original) A data processor as in claim 16, wherein the name level instruction provides for creating additional computer registers without changing the instruction format of the computer.

23. (New) A method comprising:

receiving a name level instruction during execution of a program in a processor, the name level instruction changing a name level of a named architected register from an original name level to a new name level, the named architected register with the new name level treated as an additional named architected register;

assigning a new physical memory location to the named architected register upon receipt of the name level instruction, the selection of which new physical memory location to be assigned to the named architected register with the new name level controlled solely by apparatus of the processor;

receiving additional instructions using the named architected register with the new name level;

using the new physical memory location assigned to the named architected register

with the new name level during execution of the additional instructions; and
receiving a name level instruction changing the name level of the named architected
register back to the original name level, removing the additional named
architected register from availability for use.

24. (New) The method of claim 22 where the physical memory location is an
internal register selected by register renaming apparatus of the processor.

25. (New) The method of claim 22 where the physical memory location is a
general memory location of a system.